

**Amendments to the Claims:** This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) An iridium alloy, ~~the alloy~~ consisting essentially of iridium, Rh and at least one of W and Zr; wherein the Rh comprises between 0.1 and 2.5 wt% of the alloy; wherein when present, W comprises between 0.01 and 5 wt% of the alloy; wherein when present in combination with W, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.09 wt% of the alloy.
2. (Currently Amended) An iridium alloy according to claim 1, wherein when present, W comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; ~~wherein when present in combination with W, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy;~~ and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.02 and 0.07 wt% of the alloy.
3. (Currently Amended) An ~~iridium alloy, the alloy consisting essentially of~~ comprising an iridium alloy according to claim 1 or 2 consisting essentially of iridium, Rh and at least one of W and Zr; wherein the Rh comprises between 0.1 and 2.5 wt% of the alloy; wherein when present, W comprises between 0.01 and 5 wt% of the alloy; wherein when present in combination with W, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.09 wt% of the alloy, modified by the addition of Pt in an amount of between 0.1 and 5 wt% of the alloy.
4. (Currently Amended) An ~~iridium alloy, the~~ comprising an iridium alloy consisting essentially of ~~an alloy according to claim 1, 2, or 3~~ iridium, Rh and at least one of W and Zr; wherein the Rh comprises between 0.1 and 2.5 wt% of the alloy; wherein when present, W comprises between 0.01 and 5 wt% of the alloy; wherein when present in combination with W, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.09 wt% of the alloy, modified by the addition of one or more of Ta, Nb, Mo, Cr, Ce, Sc, Lu, Co, Ni, Hf, Y, Ti, Ru and Pd individually in an amount of between 0.01 and 10 wt% of the alloy.

5. (Original) An alloy according to claim 4, wherein when present, Ta, Nb, Mo, Cr, Ce, Sc, Lu, Co, Ni, Hf, Y and Ti individually comprise between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present, Ru and Pd individually comprise between 0.1 and 5 wt% of the alloy.
6. (Currently Amended) An iridium alloy according to claim 1-~~or~~2, the alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh, W, and Zr.
7. (Currently Amended) An iridium alloy according to claim 3, the alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Pt, Rh, W and Zr.
8. (Currently Amended) An iridium alloy according to claim 1-~~or~~2, the alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh and W.
9. (Currently Amended) An iridium alloy according to claim 1-~~or~~2, the alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh and Zr.
10. (Original) An alloy according to claim 3, the alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Pt, Rh and W.
11. (Currently Amended) An electrode comprising an iridium alloy according to ~~any~~ preceding claim 1.
12. (Original) A spark plug comprising an electrode according to claim 11.
13. (New) An iridium alloy according to claim 3, wherein when present, W comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.02 and 0.07 wt% of the alloy.
14. (New) An iridium alloy according to claim 4, wherein when present, W comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.02 and 0.07 wt% of the alloy.
15. (New) An alloy according to claim 4, further comprising Pt is in an amount of between 0.1 and 5 wt% of the alloy.

16. (New) An iridium alloy according to claim 2, the alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh, W, and Zr.
17. (New) An iridium alloy according to claim 2, the alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh and W.
18. (New) An iridium alloy according to claim 2 the alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh and Zr.